

The SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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Human Testimonies About the Bible

By Dr. James H. Brooks, 1830-1897
Long pastor Washington and Compton Avenue
Presbyterian Church, St. Louis

SIR WALTER SCOTT, shattered in fortune and health, said to his son-in-law, "Bring me the Book."

"What book?" asked Mr. Lockhart.

"There is but one Book," was the answer.

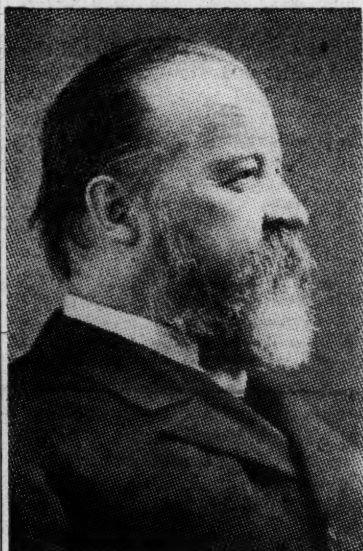
The famous author was correct, if it is true that "God spake all these words"; and that it is true may be fairly presumed from the character of the witness, from the nature and extent of his influence, and from the "words" themselves.

Moses lived a thousand years before Herodotus, "the Father of History," and, according to the historian, at least five hundred years before Homer, "the Father of Poetry," although Mr. Gladstone places the date of the poet a little earlier. "These words," in four brief propositions, sum up our duty to God, and in six still briefer propositions, sum up our duty to men; and although written so long ago, they constitute the basis of the jurisprudence of the civilized world.

Cardinal Gibbons has truly remarked in a recent sermon:

The Decalogue is 700 years older than the Jurisprudence of Lycurgus; it is 2000 years older than that of Justinian; it is 2700 years older than that of the Magna Charta; it

is 3300 years older than the Code of Napoleon, and almost as many years older than the American Constitution—and yet the Decalogue is better known today and more universally inculcated than any laws framed by the hand of man. It is an historical monument (Continued on page 5)



Dr. James H. Brooks

The Lost World Called Hell

By Missionary Norman Lewis
Casilla de Correo 650
Rosario, Argentina

"The wicked shall be turned into hell" (Ps. 9:17).

God declares it. "The wicked shall be turned into hell." I believe what God says and I cannot keep silent. Others may; I cannot. It isn't that the subject is pleasant. It has not been easy for me to prepare this message. But it is not right to speak of lesser things and neglect this great truth.

God has much to say about Hell and our need to escape it. Indeed, that is why Jesus Christ came to this world. For that reason the cross was raised on a lonely hill near old Jerusalem. God was so deeply determined to keep us from the Hell our sin deserved that He spared not the best He had, His beloved Son, but delivered Him up for us all. I believe in Hell.

Even if you are not sure Hell exists, why needlessly take a chance? A skeptic was teasing his Christian friend. He asked, "George, what would you say if when you die you found there wasn't such a place as Heaven after all?"

The Christian smiled and said, "I should say—well, I've had a fine time getting there anyway!"

Then the Christian shot back a harder question. "Fred, what would you say if, when you die, you found there was such a place as Hell after all?"

Think that through. If Hell is a possibility, every sensible man

and woman should consider the blessed alternative—to receive Christ and put the whole value of His atoning death between you and the awfulness of Hell.

But Hell is more than a possibility. Hell is reasonable. When I say Hell is reasonable I do not mean we should rule God out of His universe, call the Bible a myth, construct a logical argument based on syllogisms and the machinery of men's rational processes, to convince ourselves there is such a place as Hell. We know what we know about that lost world through God's revelation. If mankind shuts its eyes to revelation, our condition is miserable. We have no sun, no moon or stars to steer by. We are adrift on an uncharted sea, buffeted by wind and waves of forces too great for us. But God has spoken. His revelation appeals to reason.

Penitentiary of the Universe

I used to preach in the Lincoln city jail. Through Chaplain Maxwell I had the opportunity to counsel with prisoners in the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Later, we found prisoners in Argentina. Once and again I visited Los Olmos, an Argentine penitentiary, seeking to help a prisoner. Frequently we have passed the great penitentiary in San Nicolas, north of Buenos Aires. Our church in Rosario, Argentina, is but five blocks from a large walled-in prison.

I am saying to you that in North America and in South America and around the world, it has been found necessary to imprison men and women who are dangerous to society. You would not have it otherwise. What would happen if all prisons were suddenly abolished? What if all inmates were loosed, murderers, gunmen, gangsters, white slavers, adulterers, fornicators, rapists, perverts, lunatics? You would double-bar your doors tonight and pray for the morning.

Listen to me. Be reasonable. Society must often pass sentence confining men and women behind bars for the rest of their lives. On what logical basis, then, do you tell me it is unreasonable God should have a penitentiary of the universe?

God is not in a hurry. He has given every man and woman freedom. God does not step in to judge until every mortal has had full opportunity to show what is in his heart. Remember that. God is

not in a rush. He goes slow. He gives you time because He loves you and wants to save you. But woe to the person who presumes on the longsuffering of God. A gentleman of Long Island brought forward arguments against the Bible, and declared in the face of all present, "I am seventy years of age and have never seen such a place as Hell, after all that has been said about it."

His little grandson, seven years old, asked him, "Granddaddy, have you ever been dead yet?" There the conversation ended.

Not Man's Invention

Do you know that Jesus Christ spoke more about Hell than anyone else in the Bible? Hell is not an ecclesiastical invention. It was not conjured up by preachers. If you are resentful of being preached to about Hell, you are criticizing the Lord who died to save you from it. Jesus spoke as never man spake. But from those lips which moved to bless humanity fell some of the sternest warnings against Hell. The hands and feet of Jesus ever moved on errands of mercy. Yet Jesus warned that it were better to cut off hand or foot rather than "to be cast into hell, into the fire that never shall be quenched, where their worm dieth not and the fire is not quenched." Jesus Christ knows the reality of Hell. He warns us to escape and never experience the horror of that awful place.

"I can't understand," someone says, "how a God who is loving and merciful could create a place like Hell for human beings." Read the Bible and you will see that

(Continued on page 4)

Encouragements to Pray

A Radio Message by Evangelist John R. Rice

After dinner was served me on the plane the other day, I took one of those frail paper napkins and on it wrote some reasons why I could expect God to help in my great nation-wide broadcast, that broadcast which requires so much money every week and a real step of faith. God reminded me of a number of good reasons why a good Christian can expect an answer to his prayers. Oh, we have strong reasons.

In Hebrews 4:16 the Scripture says, "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." We are to come boldly.

Again the Scripture says in Hebrews 6:18 that we have "a strong consolation" for this hope we have in Christ.

We are invited in I Peter 3:15 to be always ready to give a reason for the faith that is in us. We ought to have a reason to give men, but there ought to be some reason when we come to God to say we should expect an answer to prayer.

Job said, "I would order my cause before him, and fill my mouth with arguments" (Job 23:4).

Abraham argued with God. On the same basis I would like to tell some of the reasons a Christian has a good right to expect an answer to fervent, believing prayer, or at least sincere prayer, and prayer from a needy heart and life.

I. All the Promises of God Encourage Us to Pray

First, there are God's promises. Any one of these promises is

enough for a sermon in itself, but I want to take God's promises as a whole, all of them throughout the Bible. I cannot name them all, but I want you to remember that the promises of God are the great basis on which, first of all, we should expect God to answer our prayers.

God's promises are God's contracts with men. When God makes a promise, it is as definite as if God signed a check. Sometimes the check has our name on it and the money belongs to us. Sometimes it is a blank check which fits anybody and it comes to our hand and fits us—so with the promises of God. God has entered into a contract, and blessed is the man who has God's name to a signed contract of what God will do. We should learn the promises, we should refer to them, we should claim them, we should memorize them.

The promises of God are the principal ground of any real faith. In Romans 10:17 we read, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." We know that faith comes from the Word of God, as we learn the Bible and as we read it. Now it might be that faith would come as we read of the kind of God that He is and what He has done for others, but perhaps the best and strongest foundation of our faith is when we find a clear promise in the Word of God and believe that promise and take it for ourselves and ask God to do what God said He would do. So when His promises are a reason why we should expect God to answer prayer.

My, there are so many! I can give only a few. First, are you in trouble? It is sure good to find God is for the people in trouble. The Lord Jesus said, "Blessed be ye poor" (Luke 6:20). He said, "Blessed are they that mourn" (Matt. 5:4). And in I Peter 5:7 the Scripture says, "Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you." Do you have cares? Didn't Jesus say in Matthew 11:28, "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." If you are labouring and if you are heavy burdened, then that is a good thing, isn't it?

Back in Psalm 50:15 we read, "call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me." How many, many times the Bible invites the brokenhearted and those in trouble and those who are poor and the widow and the orphan and those who have enemies and those who are persecuted to pray! Those promises ought to stir our hearts to the glad thought.

In the fifty-first Psalm David said, "The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise" (vs. 17). There are then the promises to those in trouble.

Then there are promises about faith. In Mark 9:23 Jesus said, "If thou canst believe, all things are possible to him that believeth." Again in Mark 11:24 Jesus said, "What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them." And He said if one will "say unto this mountain, Be thou (Continued on page 7)



Rev. Norman Lewis

Keeping Victory

Meet your Saviour in the morning
In the secret place of prayer,
And obtain the strength and courage
You shall need for ev'ry care.
Meet your loved ones and your neighbors,
Meet your friends and meet your foes;
Meet the sinners and the Christians
With sweet peace that overflows.

Meet your trials and your problems,
Meet your heartaches and your sighs;
Meet your many disappointments,
And whatever sorely tries,
With a heart of love and kindness
And with faith that reaches God,
Knowing that His hand will lead you
Up the way that saints have trod.

—Rev. Walter E. Isenhour, Taylorville, N. C.

CAN A MAN BE A Methodist Minister, A Modernist, And An Honest Man AT THE SAME TIME?

1. Is the Virgin Birth Essential to Christ's Deity?
2. Does a Modernist Know Better Than the Inspired Writer About the Virgin Birth?
3. Is Any Man Honest and Worthy of Respect Who Takes a Solemn Ordination Vow to Support Fundamental Doctrines of the Bible But Does Not Mean His Vows and Deliberately Breaks Them?
4. Can an Intelligent Man Honestly Believe That the Bible Means Spiritually the Exact Opposite of What It Literally States?

By EVANGELIST JOHN R. RICE

A Nebraska Methodist minister has written the editor denying that the virgin birth is essential to Christ's deity, denying that the New Testament Greek text is accurate and urging that we give less attention to such matters as the virgin birth of Christ and to the cardinal doctrines which he calls incidentals and preach more important things.

Here we give the editor's answer, quoting the principal points in the Methodist minister's letter and answering them briefly.

Dear Mr. M—:

I am glad to have your inquiries and comments and will answer them the best I can, pleading your gracious forbearance.

1. Is the Virgin Birth Essential to Christ's Deity?

You say, "I would like to inquire where it is stated in the Bible that the 'virgin birth is essential to Christ's deity.'" That is distinctly stated in Luke 1:35:

"And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God."

The word therefore shows that the reason the Lord Jesus "shall be called the Son of God" is because of His miraculous conception and birth. It also clearly shows that the term Son of God as used here could not be used of one born in the ordinary fashion.

2. Does a Modernist Know Better Than the Inspired Writer About the Virgin Birth?

It is quite certain, as you frankly admit, that the Greek word *parthenos* means "a maiden or a virgin," maiden and virgin being

synonymous. You say that the virgin birth "is clearly stated in the Bible." So it is, and so historical Christianity has always held and holds now. Then you say, "In Matthew 1:23 *parthenos* is an inaccurate translation (due to LXX) of a Hebrew word in Isaiah 7:14 meaning a female adolescent, a young woman of marriageable age, whether married or not, rightly translated by Theodotion and Aquila *neanis*." To my mind this seems a strange and fantastic statement. It seems to me that if you should base such a statement on the evidence and authorities concerning the Greek text, you must admit your case is hopeless, because the scholars are against you, as are the manuscripts. If this be your position, would you mind naming the Greek manuscripts of the New Testament which use *neanis* instead of *parthenos* in Matthew 1:23? Surely you cannot seriously attack the Greek text on such grounds.

But perhaps you mean that although the Greek text certainly says *parthenos*, the writer Matthew was not inspired and himself foolishly misunderstood the Old Testament statement, and that the original text of the New Testament is in error. If such is your position—as it seems to be—then on what grounds do you take it? How do you know more than the divinely-inspired writer would know? For such an opinion, it seems to me that you would have no basis, but a preference to believe that the Bible was not true. Perhaps you have some scholarly basis for an opinion. In that case, will you tell me what it is?

I have carefully looked up every case in the Old Testament where the Hebrew word *almah* is used, a total of seven times, and in every case the translation *virgin* seems thoroughly justified. Young's Analytical Concordance gives the

Millie was a little black girl who lived in Africa. She lived at the Oro Mission with many other black boys and girls. Millie loved the two white missionaries at Oro, called Adedun and Ifeni by the African people. The little boys and girls, however, usually called them "Mama."

Millie was always happy when it rained. Then she could wade in the streams of water near the mission. In the dry season the ground was hot and hard. It hurt her feet, because she always went barefoot. Millie could not get enough water to drink then and was often thirsty. Her lips would feel tight and stiff. It was no wonder she was happy when it rained.

She ran out into the rain and turned her face up to the sky so she could feel the wet drops com-

meaning of the word as "concealment, unmarried female." Those seven uses of the word *almah* do not justify your accusing Matthew of error. What other sources of Hebrew literature did you use to come to your conclusion besides the Old Testament Scriptures?

And if, as you say, the virgin birth "is clearly stated in the Bible," why should any preacher of the gospel try to argue either that it is untrue or that it is unimportant?

3. Is Any Man Honest and Worthy of Respect Who Takes a Solemn Ordination Vow to Support Fundamental Doctrines of the Bible But Does Not Mean His Vows and Deliberately Breaks Them?

Now a much more important matter; the sincerity or hypocrisy of preachers who deny the virgin birth. Suppose we acknowledge that some men may honestly not believe in the virgin birth of Christ. I think there are many such people who have a genuine conviction that Christ was not virgin-born. I think they did not get that by honest scholarship and investigation of the facts, but I certainly agree that some men frankly do not believe in the virgin birth. It naturally follows that such men do not believe in the unique deity of Jesus Christ. And the franker of them say so. Fosdick has said so repeatedly, in print as in his sermon, "The Peril of Worshipping Jesus," in the book, *The Hope of the World*. Bishop McConnell has said so, and Bishop Oxnham has said so. They do not believe in salvation by the atoning blood of Jesus Christ and say so. They do not believe that Jesus was what He said He was, and therefore do not believe that Jesus is infallible or sinless. Now suppose that such men have such convictions—can such a man honestly take the ordination vows of the Methodist ministry, to support the Articles of Religion of the Methodist church?

You are a Methodist minister; you know more about Articles of Religion of your church than I do, and the vows you took. If I am wrong, I want you to set me right. Do your Articles of Religion declare for the virgin birth of Christ, the absolute inspiration and authority of the Scriptures, or not? Did you take a vow to uphold those Articles of Religion? Did you mean it when you took that vow? Have you kept the vow?

I regard the ordination vow as being certainly as binding as an official oath in court. I regard it as a sacred word of honor. To me it seems that to make such a vow with secret evasion or mental reservation is worse than perjury. To me it seems that to knowingly take such a vow insincerely would be as dishonest as signing a note one did not intend to pay, or taking a public oath of allegiance to a country when one meant to be a traitor, or swearing to a fact in court when one knew it was not a fact.



By Aunt Joy

Millie and the Babies' Milk

By Josephine C. Bulifant

ing down. She opened her mouth wide and drank all that she could. It had not rained for a long, long time. Her lips were dry that they cracked a little. Now, in the rain, she pushed her feet down in the wet mud. It felt so good oozing between her black toes.

Millie liked to help Adedun and Ifeni. There were many ways that she could help. Sometimes she swept the porch and sometimes she ground red peppers by rubbing them between two stones. She rubbed them until they were soft. All of the children liked red peppers in their gravy. They never had candy or icecream. Millie thought the peppers made the gravy very sweet. Millie ate yams or corn almost every day. Yams taste like potatoes. Gravy is good on them.

Of course little babies cannot eat yams and corn and gravy with red peppers in it. That is why the six little babies at the Oro Mission had to have milk to drink every day. Milk was very scarce and only the babies and smallest children could have it. Millie never got a taste of it, because she was nine years old.

One day while she was grinding the red peppers she forgot and rubbed her eyes. The pepper on her hands made her eyes burn so much that she felt like crying. She asked Ifeni if she could do some other work for a change.

"How would you like to carry milk for the babies every day?" asked Ifeni.

Millie clapped her hands. She loved those six little babies and wanted to carry milk for them. Ifeni gave her a small tin bucket and she ran down the path to the man who kept the cows. She watched him milk every morning, because she liked so much to see the white foam rising up in the bucket. She knew just how high up in the bucket it must come, too. Ifeni said that if the babies did not get enough milk they would be sick.

Millie could not carry a full bucket of milk, for if she did it would slosh out and spill. She always carried the bucket on her head. As she walked back to the mission she could hear the milk slosh back and forth, back and forth at each step.

One day the milk came up higher in the bucket than usual. It was almost full. She tried to carry it, but some of it sloshed out and spilled on the ground.

"Oh, this good milk is spilling," thought Millie, who was very thirsty. "I wonder what milk tastes like. I think I'll drink just a little. Then it won't slosh outside and spill. There's so much milk today."

She stopped walking, took the bucket from her head, and put it to her hot, dry lips. She tasted the milk. It was good. She drank a little more. It felt so soft and cool to her lips. Oh, it did taste good! She drank some more and smacked her lips with a loud sound. Maybe she could drink just a little more. So she took a few more swallows of the good milk.

Then Millie looked in the bucket. It was only half full! She was afraid. What would Ifeni say? What would she do? What would happen to the six little babies if there was not enough milk?

Millie walked slowly up the path

to the mission. She thought, "Oh, oh, I drank too much of the milk. Now there is not enough for the babies."

She carried the milk to the back porch and there was Ifeni waiting. There were the big girls holding the six babies! All six of them looked hungry. They were sucking their hands and crying because Millie was late getting home with the milk. They were hungrier than ever that day!

Ifeni took the milk bucket from Millie's head. She looked in it. Then she looked at Millie and asked, "What happened to our milk? This is not enough for the babies."

All of a sudden Millie thought of something to say, but it was a lie.

"Please, Mama, I stubbed my toe and fell down. The milk spilled out."

Millie did not look at Ifeni.

"Are you telling me the truth, Millie?" asked Ifeni. "Are you sure you didn't drink the milk yourself?"

"Oh, no, Mama, I don't know how to drink milk. Never tasted it—don't like it," Millie said as she wiggled her toes back and forth on the hard mud floor. She did not want to look at Ifeni or the babies, who were not crying very hard.

Then Ifeni went in the house and came back with a small looking glass.

"Look in here, Millie," Ifeni said.

Millie looked in the mirror and opened her eyes wide. She could see now why Ifeni knew she was lying. Anybody could see it as plain as anything. All around her lips was white! It looked like a white mustache on her black face. She had forgotten to wipe her mouth!

"Now, Millie, you see you didn't fool me," said Ifeni. "And you never can fool God. God always knows if you tell a lie."

Millie looked up then. She was glad that Ifeni knew. Then she got right down on her knees on the hard mud floor and Ifeni and the big girls knelt down too. They all prayed and asked God to forgive Millie and help her not to lie any more. They prayed for God to send some more milk for the babies too.

When they stopped talking to God they got up from their knees. Millie was feeling very sorry because there was not enough milk for the poor little babies.

"Oh, Mama, I'm so sorry. The cow keeper doesn't have any more milk at all. He squeezed every cow dry!"

Just then Adedun came out on the porch. She had six cans of milk in her arms! They were big cans with pictures of red flowers on them.

"Look what my mother sent me. It came in the mail last night."

God had answered their prayers before they even prayed! He had sent the milk so the babies would have plenty to drink that day.

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Millie learned, like each of us must learn, that we cannot hide our sins for long. We are always caught in the end. Millie could not deceive the missionary lady, Ifeni; and more than that, she could not deceive God. Sometimes we may fool people and hide our sins from them, but God sees us and knows everything we do. In Proverbs 15:3 we are told, "The eyes of the Lord are in every place, beholding the evil and the good." The little lies we tell, the evil thoughts, the mean things we say—all of these things God sees and knows. How His heart is grieved when we try to cover our sins instead of turning from them and asking God

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integrity if I should violate that vow knowingly and remain in the ministry. I can understand how a man can deny the Bible, deny the deity of Christ, deny the blood atonement. Bob Ingersoll did and Tom Paine did. But how a man can do that and stay in the church whose integrity he solemnly vowed before God to protect, stay in and break down the faith he promised to uphold, stay in and have his bread and meat and honors from common Christians who believe in

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INCIDENTS



and Illustrations

By
Evangelist Robert L. Sumner
Contributing Editor

How Did They Get There?

Amazed American and Russian scientists recently discovered mummified seals encased in ice at heights up to 2,000 feet above sea level. The scientists, working in an Antarctic program for the International Geophysical Year work, were stumped over the big question as to how they got to those high levels.

The humble Bible believer has no such problem, finding an adequate possible solution in Genesis 6, 7 and 8 which deals with the story of Noah and the cataclysmic catastrophe of his day.

Tough Guy Not So Tough!

The young cattle rustler, although a husky, six-foot man of twenty, was not as tough as he had tried to act. When Sheriff John Edwards and Deputy Sheriff Hugh Casey were marching the young prisoner and his companion up the walk to the Young County (Texas) Jail, the rustler, J. R. Hadley, Jr., took a look at the barred doors and windows, then his legs buckled and he dropped to the ground in a dead faint! Sheriff Edwards, thinking his prisoner had suffered a heart attack, rushed to his patrol car to get an oxygen bottle and administered oxygen to Hadley for nearly five minutes.

Many a man who has played the fool with sin decided when his sin found him out that it was much more than he had bargained for! Those who sow to the wind are seldom ready to reap the returning whirlwind (Hosea 8:7) but the guilty commandment-breakers should be ready to face the music since the unalterable law is: "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap" (Gal. 6:7).

Tomorrow's Divorces

If it is a representative viewpoint among today's teen-agers, the recently released figures of the Youth Research Bureau, headed by Eugene Gilbert, are enough to make the angels weep. Talking to over 600 young people in representative sections of America, the bureau discovered that the average teen-ager thinks very lightly of divorce and holds no stigma in his own mind with reference to it.

Although one-fifth of those questioned were products of a home broken through divorce, the overwhelming majority favored ending unhappy marriages. Over three-fourths of them, 77 per cent to be exact, said they would not stick out an unhappy marriage just to avoid divorce. Over 50 per cent of them said this would hold true even if there were children involved. An eighteen-year-old girl from Rockville, Maryland, expressed the sentiment of most of the young people interviewed when she commented, "Happiness is the ultimate in life, so why be purposely unhappy?"

American divorce rates continue to skyrocket and possibilities for tomorrow, rather than being better, point to an even worse situation. America's only hope is in getting back to God and the principles taught in His Word. Apparently the sacredness of a marriage vow becomes less holy with every American generation. The sanctity of the American home is

A Methodist . . .

(Continued from page 2)

Christ and the Bible and depend upon his vow to uphold what they believe—that is beyond my comprehension as an honest man. I cannot think it honest nor sincere. As a brotherly man who wants to do right and wants to know the truth, I ask you to write me whether or not you took your vows with secret evasion or mental reservation.

I could not call a man who is "literally" a whoremonger "spiritually" true to his wife. I could not call a traitor to his country "spiritually true" if he were literally untrue. I am simply trying to state the case for honest Bible-believing Christians and for honest people everywhere who believe in keeping holy vows and oaths and promises.

You say, "My only suggestion is that you begin to deal with fundamentals, not incidentals. Preach the gospel. Tell men of the saving power of Christ. Tell them how He makes all things new." All right, friend; are not these the fundamentals I am talking about? What good is Christianity that makes a man a liar and perjurer in the pulpit? Are not truth and integrity and honest dealing and keeping of holy vows part of the fundamentals you are talking about? How can people who believe in the saving power of Christ, that He makes men new, excuse insincere evasions, twisted terminologies and betrayals of sacred trusts?

You have raised a good question. It distresses and disturbs me. I shall be sincerely grateful if you will write me whether or not I am right, that Methodist ministers take a vow to support the Articles of Religion of the Methodist church, whether these Articles of Religion do not cover the virgin birth, the inspiration of the Bible, the deity of Christ and the blood atonement and how you can reconcile any man staying in the Methodist ministry when he ceases to honor those vows. That is an honest question that ought to have an honest answer, and I believe you will write me on that matter.

4. Can an Intelligent Man Honestly Believe That the Bible Means Spiritually the Exact Opposite of What It Literally States?

You say the virgin birth is "clearly stated in the Bible. And if one is a literalist he is compelled to accept it, not as a cardinal doctrine, but as a historical event." I take it that you are an educated man. Therefore you ought not to use words lightly, and surely you would not willingly twist them. I was a college teacher, did graduate work in the University of Chicago, have been an editor for twenty four years, and over nineteen million copies of my books and pamphlets have been distributed. I mention these things only to show that I have a keen conscience on the use of words. With that in mind, I ask you if the virgin birth is clearly stated in the Bible, then why would not any Bible-believer accept it, whether he be a "literalist" or not? If a good Christian who is a literalist believes that Mary was a virgin, then would a good Christian who believes the Bible but is not a literalist believe that Mary was a harlot? She clearly was not married when the Saviour was conceived. If the Bible says a thing is white and a literalist believes that, then would any good Christian say that it meant black? Suppose we put it this way; do the Articles of Religion of the Methodist church represent the literal viewpoint? Then if any man takes these vows, does he have a right to say that he be-

on a par now with that of Rome, Babylon, France, Greece, and other mighty nations and empires at the time of their collapse.

God help America!

Evangelist Sumner can be seen and heard:

July 20-Aug. 2:
Walnut Street Baptist Church
West High School Auditorium
Baltimore and Ridgeway Streets
Waterloo, Iowa

August 4-16:
Good News Baptist Church
31st Street & Llewellyn Avenue
Norfolk, Virginia

Sword A Wonderful Blessing in India

We appreciate a letter from Missionary E. G. Jacober, Christian and Missionary Alliance missionary in Radhanpur, B. S., India. June 9 he wrote:

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"Greetings from India. We continue to praise God for the open doors for the preaching of the Gospel.

"Your SWORD OF THE LORD has been a wonderful blessing to us each week throughout the past year. We read every issue and I have kept each one for reference. I have often used THE SWORD OF THE LORD in preparing sermons for the Indian Christians.

"Could you please send me THE SWORD OF THE LORD for another year? I would deeply appreciate your kindness in this.

"Your great tract, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' which we translated into Gujarati has won many souls to His glory.

"Most sincerely yours in

Christ,"

(Signed) E. G. Jacober

At the last count we had some 22,000 ministers, 3,000 foreign missionaries taking THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Many of these missionaries who live on very modest salaries receive THE SWORD OF THE LORD through our Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund. So also do many ministerial students, national preachers in foreign countries, retired pastors, and others.

We are glad to send THE SWORD OF THE LORD free another year to this missionary, and I hope that some who read this will send an offering to help our Ministers and Missionary Subscription Gift Fund. Address THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

lives certain things and will uphold them, intending for people to understand him literally when he himself has mental reservation and secret evasion in his mind and does not take them literally?

Why should any honest man call Jesus the Son of God when he does not mean that He is the Son of God in a unique sense, the virgin-born, God-incarnate Christ which the Bible pictures? Why should any man who is honest call Jesus "our Lord and Saviour" when he does not believe that Christ saves any one by His atoning death on the cross and by supernatural regeneration? Such talk is "tongue in cheek" insincerity, hypocrisy, in my humble judgment.

I shall be deeply grateful for your reply.

I should like to send with my compliments my book, *Is Jesus God?* if I may send it as a brotherly gesture which will not be misunderstood. It has gathered together in simple form much of the overwhelming evidence for the deity of Christ. You may be familiar with much of this material, but there might be something fresh in it, and at least my viewpoint would be made clearer. Will you accept it in the kindly spirit in which I send it? One Methodist pastor wrote me, telling how tremendously he was steadied and helped by it.

In the dear Saviour's name,
yours,

John R. Rice.

JRR/vw

Help Get Doubters the Proof of Christ's Deity

In the letter above I mentioned my book, *Is Jesus God?* This book has 207 pages. The price is \$2.50. It is an attractive clothbound book and I believe it might be richly blessed of God to settle the doubts of young ministers, college and high school students. God has already blessed it in a good many such cases. It proves the resurrection of Christ. It proves His virgin birth. It shows how Old Testament prophecies prove the deity of Christ. It shows what is wrong with the modernist. It answers the modernist's objections and tells what God's Word says about it. Please help get this book in the hands of preachers, ministerial students and others. Address, *Sword of the Lord*, Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.



Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

EVANGELIST AND MRS.

JACK VAN IMPE, 14 Gage Street, Pontiac 16, Michigan, recently held a one-week evangelistic campaign in the Grace Baptist Church of Richmond, California. Rev. G. Sherman Lemmon, pastor, reports that there were 29 decisions for salvation and 35 backsliders restored to fellowship. Of the 35 backsliders restored, 18 came to give up worldly habits, and 2 Roman Catholics were among the number of those saved in the meeting.

EVANGELIST GERMAN P. COMER, Box 5889, Dallas 22, Texas, recently concluded a good meeting in Dalhart, Texas, in the Lincoln Street Baptist Church. As a result of the meeting, 34 joined the church by letter and baptism and 25 of these were baptized the last night of the meeting. Forty-five persons pledged to become titheers and 81 individuals pledged to start family altars in the home.

There were 23 first-time decisions for Christ and many rededications in a revival held by EVANGELIST DON WILSON, Varsity Village, White Oak Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, at Calvary Community Church, Statesville, North Carolina, April 26-May 10. Pastor Harry E. Walmer writes a very enthusiastic commendation of the evangelist's second meeting with this church. "I can certainly recommend this Bible evangelist for any church that desires real Bible evangelism. . . . His definite, uncompromising convictions challenge the heart of both saint and sinner. . . ." declared the pastor.

Brother Don got a number of subscriptions to *The Sword of the Lord* from the church for which we are grateful.

EVANGELIST DON WILSON, Varsity Village, White Oak Drive, Greenville, South Carolina, was March 22-29 with the Hebron Evangelical and Reformed Church, Winston-Salem, North Carolina, where Rev. Don Lyerly is pastor. The pastor reports there were 12 forward for salvation, and many other blessings which the church experienced.

May 31-June 14 Evangelist Wilson was with the Second Baptist Church of Ravenswood, West Virginia. Pastor Earl Miller reports 4 coming forward

for salvation, 6 for rededication, and 16 for church membership (8 of these by baptism). He highly recommends the evangelist as a local evangelist, saying, "His ministry builds up the local church in a permanent and constructive way. . . . His preaching is winsome, Spirit-filled, effective. . . . He is opposed to the present ecumenical evangelism and all forms of compromise. He will be asset to any church."

Brother Wilson began a city-wide campaign in Fairfield, Iowa, on June 28, and we trust to have a good report of that meeting for this column later.

Rev. Paul E. Hume, pastor of the Church of the Open Door in Greenville, Mississippi, states that during the week of May 17-24, God greatly used EVANGELIST GLEN SCHUNK, 10 Blythewood Drive, Greenville, South Carolina. The church experienced a fine meeting with record attendance, with 20 first-time decisions for Christ, and many rededications. "Brother Schunk" says Hume, "is a faithful and forceful preacher of the pure Gospel, whose ministry is definitely a help to a church and pastor. I highly recommend him."

EVANGELIST CARLYLE SCOTT, 713 Whitlock Avenue, Crawfordsville, Indiana writes of his last two meetings: "My week of meetings at Tri-Lakes Baptist Church, near Columbus City, Indiana, with Pastor Lee Turner was good. There were 22 professions—18 for salvation. The five-day meeting at Bloomington, Indiana, with Emmanuel Baptist Church, Pastor Austin Elmore, was worthwhile. A man who had left the ministry over heart-break and abuse through modernism, came back to the Lord and a college student was saved the final service."

Changing Your Address?

Be sure to let us know ahead of time! Unless you notify us five weeks in advance, you will likely miss some copies of THE SWORD OF THE LORD!

Dr. Bob Jones SAYS:



From time to time we try to release quotations from letters from former Bob Jones University students. I am sure our friends will be interested in the following quotation from a former student who is now in the Air Force: "I would also take this chance to say that I have felt God, many times very strongly, in the four years since leaving Bob Jones University; and it has been satisfying to me to realize that the influence of Bob Jones University still lives with me. I go back to things I picked up there quite often. Flying jet fighters off the decks of these carriers, especially at night, frequently makes me realize afresh how dependent we are upon Him to set the circumstances that precede us as we go down His path for our life. I can say sincerely that there have been times when it was solely through His strengthening me for specific situations that I was able to continue. I like flying jets—it is a challenge. But I am

realizing more every day that the real challenge is in dealing with men."

Now, my friends, if you believe in standing firmly for the "old-time religion" and not compromising, and if you believe in training young people who will go out in the world and stand true to Jesus Christ and the Word of God in this day when faith in the Bible is being undermined, you can conscientiously help Bob Jones University, in three ways, do the work God has called it to do. First: Pray daily and earnestly for the University. Second: If you know young people who can be trained for Christian leadership, try to turn them to Bob Jones University for their training. Third: You can invest some of God's money in the work here. Won't you let us hear from you? Thank you, and God bless you.

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The Lost World Called Hell

(Continued from page 1)

Hell was not created for human beings. It was created for the Devil and his angels. There was rebellion in Heaven. The Word of God reveals that back yonder that brilliant created personality called Satan rebelled against God and involved some of the angels. God created a place of punishment for the Devil and his angels. And if you insist on siding with those who are against God, that place will be your eternal prison. Either you are openly for Jesus Christ or you are against Him. You cannot be neutral.

Think not you are a little saint simply because you are not a great sinner. Men are not sent to Hell for murder, rape and arson. Men are sent to Hell for refusing to claim Christ as Saviour and Lord. To seek to be neutral on this issue is to stand with the Devil's crowd, with those who seek to unseat God from His throne and cast Him down from Heaven.

Your Sins or Adam's?

Have you considered how open and free is the way of escape? Heaven's door is open to you. The awful cost was laid on God.

Mel Trotter told that when traveling on the train one day a man said to him, "All you preachers make me sick."

"I'm not a preacher," replied Trotter. "I wish I were; I don't know enough."

"I don't care what you are. You Christians are always talking about a man going to Hell because Adam sinned."

"No," Trotter said, "you will never go to Hell because Adam sinned. You will go to Hell because you refuse the remedy God provided for Adam's sin. Don't you go to crying about something that has been absolutely taken care of. If you go to Hell you will go over the broken body of Jesus Christ, who died to keep you out." That is true.

Is the Fire Real?

Hell is horrible. When the Son of God rolled back the curtain that separates us from that lost world, He showed as graphic a picture as mortal man could see. I wouldn't walk across the street to argue whether the account of the rich man and Lazarus is fact or figure. I believe it to be fact. But the point is incidental. Why? Because if the account is a figure, the reality Christ described is far worse. Bible figures of speech often bring down to our human level of understanding truths so tremendous they would otherwise escape our comprehension. To interpret as figurative what our Lord tells of the rich man in Hell does not make Hell less horrible. The reality of Hell must be worse than the figure which represents it.

Jesus told of the rich man after his burial, "... in Hell he lifted up his eyes, being in torments. . . and he cried and said . . . Have mercy on me, and send Lazarus, that he may dip the tip of his finger in

water, and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame." The solemn answer came back, "Son, remember." He had had his opportunity on earth.

Some of you are face to face with life's biggest and most crucial question. That is true of everyone who is without personal certainty of pardon through faith in Jesus Christ.

Where is Hell?

I do not know. This universe is so big that even with the Mount Wilson telescope through which men look millions of light years into outer space, the end of things has not yet been found. Shall we worry our puny minds about the location of Hell? A more practical answer has been given. A man was asked, "Where is Hell?" He answered, "At the end of a Christless life." God says that the person who does not receive Jesus Christ when given the opportunity will find himself at last in that awful place.

What about it? Hasn't God been fair to you? He gave His Son to die for you. He offers to save you freely. He doesn't ask you to "try." He doesn't ask you to buy salvation. He doesn't ask you to be "good enough." He asks you to take the sinner's place, humble yourself and say, "God, be merciful to me a sinner." Put your trust in Jesus Christ.

I recall a Youth for Christ rally we held in Quilmes, a suburb of Buenos Aires. The place was an Anglican church. The rally was well attended by high school young people. I poured out my heart in the plainest gospel message I could preach. At the close, young people who wanted to quit their sins and receive Jesus Christ were invited to make public that decision. Some fifteen young people came forward. The meeting ended on a strong spiritual note.

Two days later the rector of the Anglican church telephoned and invited me to dinner with him at a certain hotel. When I reached the place I was subjected to a severe criticism of the rally, especially of the invitation. "All the message was quite good until you came to the close," he said, "but as you gave the invitation, even the tone of your voice changed while you pled with the young people."

The Reason Why

I was criticised by a minister who objected because I strongly pled with sinners to quit their sins and surrender to the Son of God. Suppose that while we were eating dinner that day in the hotel I had heard someone shout, "Fire!" had seen smoke and flames, had noticed panicky customers bolting for the exits. Would you expect me to have whispered, "This place is apparently on fire. Perhaps we would do well to consider leaving?" No! You would have expected me to shout, "Man, this place is afire! Let's get out of here!"

That's why I am shouting. That's why I work so hard to get you to stop sinning and give yourself to Jesus Christ. Do you know why some Christians are unconcerned? They don't believe you are going to Hell. That is what

is wrong. That is why some preachers stand before you dry-eyed, no sweat, no warning in their voices. I believe you are bound for Hell if you are not saved. You are kept from the horror of Hell only by the pulsating movement of your weak heart.

How long will Hell last? The Bible tells us that while God exists and Heaven endures and the blissful eternity of the saved rolls on and on, Hell will also exist. In Matthew 25:46 the very same expression is used with reference to the duration of the blessedness of the saved and the punishment of the unsaved. Heaven is eternal. So, too, is Hell.

Hell's Awfulness

How awful to suffer in that lost world. I remember the testimony of Dr. Joe Henry Hankins. When he was eleven years old he was in a gunpowder explosion and was burned from head to foot. He was in bed thirteen months, but for nearly six weeks of that time it seemed he was in fire day and night. You know how painful even a small burn can be. My wife had a bad time yesterday from the burn of a hot iron. The iron had only touched the palm of her hand. Think of your body being burned from your waist to the top of your head. In those days they didn't have modern means to alleviate suffering. Hankins said, "There I was, day and night, in that awful agony of suffering. When night would come on, my mother would sit by my bedside. My lips and my mouth and my tongue were parched. She would have a pitcher full of ice-cold lemonade sitting on the table by the bed. I could not retain water, but I could retain that. Every little bit the fire would seem to burn the flesh all through my being. My mouth was so dry, and my lips were so dry, and my throat was so dry! I would say, 'Mummy, give me a drink.' She would give me a glass of that ice-cold lemonade, and I would drink it."

"Then I would doze off to sleep. Almost the minute I went to sleep I was in fire again. I would dream that I was out yonder in the yard, playing with the children, and there was a great crock as big as a house, full of water. The water was boiling, and it turned over. A great sluice of that boiling would come rolling toward me. I would run and try to get out of the way. As I would run I would fall down and it would roll over me. I would wake up screaming at the top of my voice. Mother would say, 'What is it, Sonny Boy?'"

"I would say, 'Mummy, what time is it?'"

"She would say, 'Why, Sonny Boy, it's just ten o'clock. Go to sleep.' She would give me more of that iced lemonade, and I would doze off to sleep again. The next time maybe I was in the house, and the house was on fire. I would run to the door. The door would be locked. The house would be falling in, and the flames would be leaping all around me. I would wake up and say, 'Mummy!'"

"She would say, 'What is it, Sonny Boy?'"

"I would say, 'Mummy, what time is it?'"

"She would say, 'Sonny Boy, it's just ten thirty. Go to sleep.'"

"I would say, 'Mummy, won't daylight ever come? Oh, Mummy, the nights are so long and so lonesome!'"

Oh, the endlessness of a lost eternity! Think of the terror of that place of darkness and outer night, where Christ's love can never come. The only sound is the weeping, the wailing, the gnashing of teeth. There men hope for a dawn that can never come, they moan and cry for a drop of water to cool their tortured tongues, the water that cannot be given. You try to explain it if you can. I can't, but I know that God in His mercy has warned us away from that awful place.

God's warnings are plain. The Bible says, "Turn ye, turn ye from your wicked ways, for why will ye die?" Don't play with your soul. Jesus said, "Go in by the narrow gate; for broad and roomy is the road that leads to destruction, and many are going in by it." Don't be swept along by the careless crowd. The very Son of God warned that many would go in a false and fatal way. How many gamble with their souls and lose!

His Luck Failed

Allison W. Bunkley went to Argentina in 1946, the year after our arrival there. Bunkley had won a scholarship at Princeton University. During his stay in Argentina he was a correspondent for Newsweek. He had returned to the United States when the newspaper flashed out word of his tragic death. The papers said that after watching a basketball game between the universities of Princeton and New York, Bunkley returned to his apartment with a group of friends for a little birthday celebration. Shortly after eleven o'clock he wished to show his guests how the game of "Russian roulette" was played. A revolver has only one chamber loaded, then a player twirls the cylinder around quickly, applies the weapon to his temple and pulls the trigger. Bunkley did this several times, striking an empty chamber each time. His friends then insisted he stop. "I'll do it just once more," said Bunkley. This time luck failed him and he shot himself, dying a few minutes afterward in the hospital.

You say, "He must have been drunk or insane." Yet you are just as foolish if you are risking your eternal salvation. The only thing that keeps you out of Hell right now is the throb of your heart. I plead with you in Jesus' name, for your own good, to give your life over into Christ's keeping. He will save you. He says, "I am the door, by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved."

You say, "What must I do, how can I know I am saved?" Jesus says if you will confess Him with your mouth as your Saviour and believe that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved. Will you do it? Right now?

I Appeal to You

What I want for you is what I desire for my own precious family. My wife and I have seven kiddies. We love them like you who are parents love your own. I'll never forget the day I had to take my boy Philip—my wife was sick—to the British Hospital in Buenos Aires for a tonsil operation. I suffered as I heard his cries from the operating room, though I knew an anesthetic was used. I suffered as I waited outside the door. They wheeled him to a ward. Everything seemed all right. I stepped out to get a bite to eat. When I returned, there was a screen around the bed. Nurses and doctors were hurrying about. I rushed to his bedside and looked down on the whitest face I had ever seen. A hemorrhage was draining his life away. Difficulties hindered giving him a blood transfusion.

I felt as though a razor-sharp knife were pressed into the living fiber of my heart. During the next couple of hours I suffered as only a parent can when his child is in "the valley of the shadow." God was merciful to me, He gave me back my boy. Since then he has grown, knows what it means to be saved, has given himself to Jesus Christ.

But listen, friend. God knows I'd have seen Philip die on that hospital bed in Buenos Aires, taken his cold body and buried it in a cemetery in Buenos Aires, rather than see him grow up, reject Jesus Christ, and go forever to that place called Hell. Hell is real. You need not go there, but you will go there unless you repent of your sins and receive Jesus Christ. That is what we want to help you to do right now. You can do it, if you will. "If any man willeth to do God's will, he shall know . . ." Do you want to do God's will? That is the issue now. We will pray for you and help you, and God will save you. Let us pray.

The Editor Adds His Plea

You have read the moving, Spirit-anointed sermon by Mission-

ary Norman Lewis. If you have never been converted, have never clearly trusted Christ to save you, and have never been given a new heart, then you are a poor lost sinner. I beg you to decide today.

In John 3:36 the issue is made very clear, "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." There it is. The moment you turn from your sin and depend on Christ to save you, rely upon Him, turn your case over to Him, trust Him, that moment you have ever lasting life. But as long as you have not openly trusted Christ as Saviour, the anger of God stays on your unrepentant heart and judgment of Hell threaten you. And in Jesus' name I beg you, turn your heart from sin, trust Jesus today.

If you will take Christ as Saviour, I beg you first, decide it clearly and tell God that you trust Christ to save you, you give Him your heart. Then second, will you sign the statement below, copy it in a letter and mail it to the editor at once? I will send Missionary Norman Lewis word of decision and I will write you a letter of counsel and encouragement. I beg you, turn your heart to Christ, trust Him and be saved today. Will you sign and copy the decision form and mail at once?

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor,
SWORD OF THE LORD
Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois

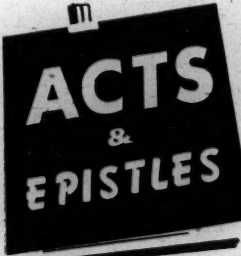
Dear Brother Rice:

I have read the sermon, "The Lost World Called Hell," by Missionary Norman Lewis. I confess to God that I am a poor lost sinner who deserves Hell. But I believe that Jesus died for me and wants to save me. Here and now I turn my heart to Jesus and trust Him to save me. The best I know how I now depend upon Him, rely upon Him and turn my case over to Jesus to save my soul as He promised to do. I will confess Him openly as my Saviour and set out to live for Him now.

Signed,

Address,

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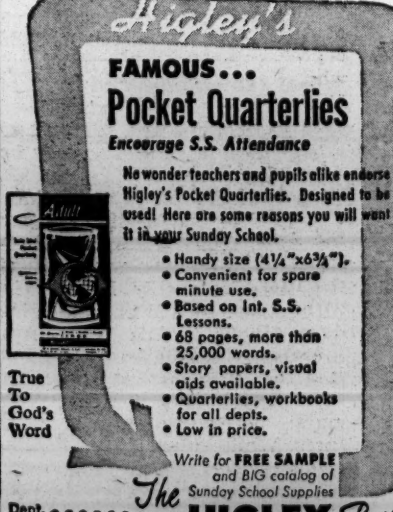


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Human Testimonies About the Bible

(Continued from page 1)

that has remained impregnable for thousands of years, and has successfully withstood the violent shocks of the most formidable assailants. There is not a single arch, or column, or key-stone in the sacred edifice that does not show some marks of foreign or domestic assault. But there it stands, as firm as the pyramids, unshaken and unruined by the upheavals and revolutions of centuries.

It is said that Earl Cairns, one of the ablest and most successful lawyers of recent days, told a father who consulted him about the books his son needed to study as a preparation for the practice of the law, "Let him begin with the Bible, for there he will find the foundation of all law, as well as of all morality." The same sentiment has been expressed again and again by eminent lawyers.

Sir Matthew Hale, for example, records his opinion: "I have been acquainted somewhat with men and books, and have had long experience in the world: there is no book like the Bible for excellent learning, wisdom, and use; and it is want of understanding in them that think or speak otherwise."

This opinion has been approved in writing by such lawyers and statesmen as Bacon, Blackstone, Sir William Jones, Lord Lyttleton, Lord Erskine, Selden who was called "the glory of the English nation," Edmund Burke, Wilberforce, Gladstone, Bismarck, Chief Justice Marshall, John Jay, LL. D., Chancellor Kent, Judge Story, Chief Justice Parsons, Justice McLean, Greenleaf, and Daniel Webster, whose confession of faith in the Scriptures is engraved upon his tomb at Marshfield.

It has been endorsed by such scientists as Sir Isaac Newton, Leibnitz, Sir John Herschell, Sir Humphrey Davy, Faraday, Sir David Brewster, the Duke of Argyll, Prof. Dana, Prof. Hitchcock, Prof. Mitchell, Prof. Maury, Sir J. William Dawson, and six hundred and seventeen members of the British Scientific Association, whose paper expressing their belief in the Bible is now in the Bodleian Library of Oxford, England.

It has been accepted by such soldiers as Cromwell, Washington, Wellington, Von Moltke, Sir Henry Havelock, General Gordon (who fell at Khartoum), General Andrew Jackson (who became an earnest Christian), General Grant at the last (according to the testimony of Bishop Newman), General McClelland, General Howard, General Lee, and General Stonewall Jackson, none of whom were cowardly or superstitious.

Sir Isaac Newton declared: "We account the Scriptures of God to be the most sublime philosophy."

Dr. Samuel Johnson, as his biographer Boswell tells us, said: "Young man, attend to the voice of one who has possessed a certain degree of fame in the world, and who is about to appear before his Maker, read the Bible every day of your life."

Locke, the acutest thinker and reasoner of the past two centuries, spent the last fourteen years of his life in the constant study of the Bible, and then gave his decision: "It has God for its author, salvation for its end, and truth without any mixture of error for its matter."

Alexander Hamilton informs us that he spent an evening with some friends, and indulged in remarks derogatory to the Scriptures. While standing on the steps of his residence late at night waiting for a servant to open the door, the thought suddenly flashed upon him, What, after all, if the Book is true. He was conscious that he had never examined it, "not even with that attention which a small retaining fee requires in civil cases." The next morning he began to read the Bible and other books bearing on the evidences of Christianity, and the result is, he says: "I believe the religion of Christians to be the truth; that Jesus Christ is the Son of God; that He made an atonement for our sins by his death; and that He rose for our justification."

Kids Korner

(Continued from page 2)

for forgiveness. How sad the Lord Jesus is when we hold on to our sins and love them and refuse to trust Him as Saviour.

Once there was a young man named Jim who grew up in a Christian home. His parents were fine, noble Christians who tried to teach him the Bible and teach Him to do right. The young man pretended to be a Christian—he was active in the church and a leader in the young people's group. But deep in his heart he knew he had not trusted Christ as his Saviour. He did not want to give up his sins. He wanted to go his own way. He tried to cover his sins so that no one would know how bad he was.

when worthily inquired of), and to disregard nearly altogether, in comparison, the temporary noises, menaces, and deliriums."

Let us briefly examine the Book which has commanded the confidence and respect of such distinguished men and intelligent minds, and which unquestionably has blessed and elevated countless millions of the best people who have lived for eighteen centuries. Let us see whether arguments may not be presented which ought to be sufficient, and are sufficient, to persuade any reasonable and unprejudiced person of its supernatural origin.

—The End—

When Jim got a little older and left home, he began to get deeper and deeper in sin. Before long he was working for a famous gangster and helping a wicked underworld gang. One day Jim's sins caught up with him. He was arrested and put in jail. He had discovered, as the Bible says, "Be sure your sin will find you out" (Num. 32:23).

Jim had tried to cover his sins, but God saw him and knew all about his wicked life. The young man was convicted by the words of a song which had been sung years before in a young people's meeting. Over and over again he heard the words, "You Cannot Hide From God."

You cannot hide from God,
Tho' mountains cover you,
His eye our secret thoughts beholds,
His mercies all our lives unfold,
He knows our purposes untold,
You cannot hide from God.

You cannot hide from God,
No matter what you do,
He meets you at life's every turn,
He knows your thro'ts that blight and burn,
He weeps when His own Son you spurn,
You cannot hide from God.

You cannot hide from God,
Tho' quietly you go,
He notes your footsteps ere they fall,
He hears your silent heartfelt call,
His knowledge rules high over all,
You cannot hide from God.

What a glad day it was when
Jim stopped trying to hide from

God and turned from his sins to trust the Lord Jesus Christ as his Saviour. His life was completely changed. Instead of being a gangster, now he is an evangelist, preaching the Gospel and seeing many people saved!

Perhaps some of you young folks have been trying to hide your sins from God. Today I hope you will see how foolish that is. If you have never before come to the Lord Jesus, confessing your sins, and depending on Him to save you and put your sins under His blood, won't you do that right now? Do you know that you are a sinner and that you can't save yourself? Do you believe that the Lord Jesus died for you on the cross and paid for your sins? Then just now call on Him and depend on Him to be your Saviour. "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved" (Rom. 10:13). Then write me and tell me about it. I would be so glad to know, and I want to help you. Address Aunt Joy, "Kids Korner," Box 420, Wheaton, Illinois.

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I am looking for one woman in each community to earn spare time money as a Friendship Counselor

The work is pleasant and dignified and is with people you already know. Are you the kind of person who is suited to this interesting job? Let me send you all the facts—FREE OF CHARGE—so you can decide for yourself.

BY HELEN HARLEY

A lot of intelligent women today are finding themselves bored by having too much time on their hands. What could be more natural than for these women to begin looking around to see what they could find to keep busy and perhaps make some extra money at the same time?

But there is quite a difference between wanting some spare time work and getting the kind of spare time work you want! The magazines and newspapers are full of "make money at home" propositions. But when you get into each proposition, what do you discover? You discover that 99 out of 100 spare time jobs require that you do some hard personal house-to-house selling!

You'll Be Doing Your Friends a Real Favor!

Now, I have no fault to find with selling. All of us have to be salesmen at one time or another, whether it's selling young Johnny on wearing his mittens to school or whether it's convincing the man you love that you are truly his "one and only!"

It's usually the method of selling that bothers me—and bothers most of the women I know! If I can find something that I like for myself, and that my friends like and need as much as I do—something that they will actually come over to my house to look at—and really want—without any pushing whatsoever from me—then I've no objection to picking up a few dollars for doing my friends a real favor! In fact, that's how I became a Friendship Counselor in my own community.

The Kind of Spare Time Work You'll Love

I wasn't exactly looking for a job (even one like this that you can "take or leave," whenever you feel like it). But I did want to do something more than just keep house, and when a casual friend from another state told me what a wonderful time she was having as a spare time Friendship Counselor, I decided to find out more about it. Aside from the extra money it brings in, I can't begin to tell you of the deep satisfaction I get out of furnishing people with the right kind of greetings for every occasion.

This is All We Require

Naturally, not everyone can qualify for a position as a Friendship Counselor. The

qualities we are looking for are not education, special training, or social position. Age has nothing to do with it, either! The qualities we seek, the right woman was born with! If you have good artistic taste, a friendly personality that makes people feel at home, and a spare hour or two a day to devote to your work, you have the right background. We do require, however, that you have three or four close friends in your neighborhood and a pleasant place in which to talk to people who drop in to see you.

Greater Need Than Ever Before for Friendship Counselors

I don't think it necessary to emphasize the growing importance of maintaining friendly social relations. Most people today wouldn't dream of going through a Christmas Season without sending at least a Christmas Card to their many friends and acquaintances. And then there is the problem of the right ribbon and paper in which

to wrap the gifts—the right card for the special birthday—the proper stationery to use as "thank-you" notes, as "get-well" messages, as invitations, as thoughtful reminders.

It doesn't take much of an imagination to appreciate that anyone who can be of help to people in supplying the right wishes or condolences or remembrances is rendering a special kind of service that builds new friendships and cements old ties—that spreads good cheer far and wide. Providing the right card or the right stationery for the right occasion is the kind of help anyone can be proud to offer!

Wouldn't you like to find out all about this fascinating new informal kind of spare time counseling that is so much in demand today? We'd like very much to show you how easily you can make good money in your spare time while rendering your community a valuable service!

COUPON BELOW PROVIDES EVERYTHING!

The coupon below entitles you to receive our latest Friendship Counselor's Kit, which contains a complete display of Personal Stationery, Correspondence Notes, Greeting Cards for All Occasions, Gift Wrappings, Children's Gift Items, as well as our popular Name-Imprinted Christmas Card Selection (also included are 4 new boxed assortments of Christmas Cards sent for approval). You owe it to yourself to investigate this friendly spare time type of self-employment in which so many women are pleasantly serving the needs of their communities and at the same time are earning a well-deserved income. Just fill out and mail the coupon this very day, and leave the rest to me.

Also a Chance to Go On a Wonderful Shopping Spree!



It doesn't matter whether you are one of our newest Counselors or a veteran. You get an equal chance to share in \$5,000 worth of prizes and prize-money, just for a little extra effort. Only 10 minutes extra a day could get you as much as \$500 extra in cash! We tell you all about it, when you send in the coupon.

GENERAL CARD COMPANY, DEPT. 2267, 1300 W. JACKSON Blvd., CHICAGO 7, ILL.

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This is a tremendous special offer we are making during July on these books listed. We hope you will stock up for yourself, for gifts to others, and Sunday School libraries, and even for Christmas gifts. We pray God will bless these books to thousands of hearts as He has in the past.

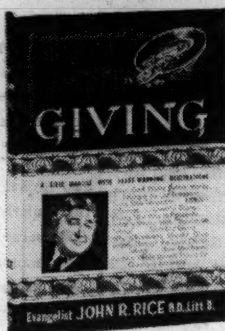
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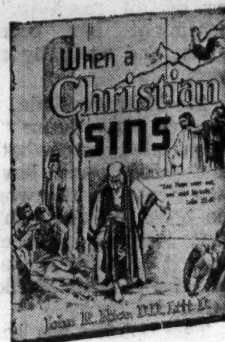
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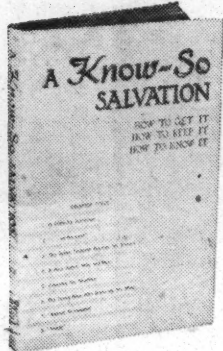
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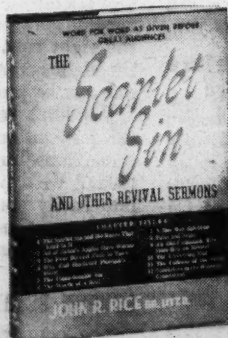
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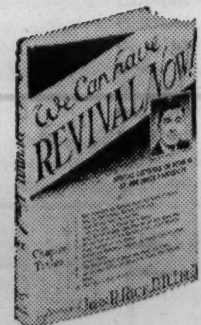
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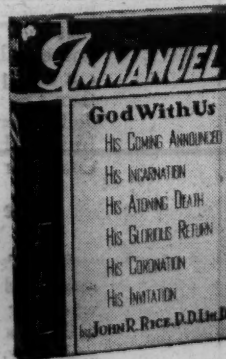


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Encouragements to Pray

(Continued from page 1)

removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, . . . he shall have what soever he saith." So I say there

are many promises to the one who asks in faith. Then there are promises about big answers to prayer, not little

answers alone. It is true that God knows the fall of the sparrow. It is true that God clothes the lilies. It is true that God gives a thousand beautiful little tender touches that His love provides for all of us, but aren't you glad that God is also able and God is willing

to undertake tremendous things, world-shaking things? So the Lord invites us in Jeremiah 33:3, "Call unto me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not." In Ephesians 3:20 Paul says, "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think."

In Psalm 81:10 the Lord said, "Open thy mouth wide, and I will fill it." God is inviting us to ask big things, and He says three or four times in the Bible, "Is any thing too hard for the Lord?" In Jeremiah 32:27 and in 32:17 and then with Abraham in Genesis 18:14, we are told there is nothing too hard for God.

Then we can ask in Jesus' name. We are invited in John 14, verses 13 and 14, "And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do it."

Then there are the promises that say just to pray. Never mind whether you have much faith and never mind whether you believe it as you ought or whether you are asking it wholly in Jesus name, the Scripture still says you are to pray. "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened" (Luke 11:9, 10).

How many promises there are of answers to persistent prayer. So we are invited to pray.

We ought to remember also that there are so many promises in the Bible of provision. There is a promises of daily bread. We are invited to pray for daily bread. Who then ought to be timid when you come to ask God for what God has offered to give? When we come to ask God for what He has offered to give so freely, we ought to feel encouraged to pray for that which God has offered to give.

Then there is the promise that He clothes the lilies and He feeds the sparrows. Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, "But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." We can thank God that He is able and ready to give us the promises of God. All of them are a good basis on which we are to pray. Oh, how the promises encourage us and build our faith!

II. The Very Nature of God—His Goodness and Mercy and Power—Should Encourage Us to Pray

Again we are encouraged to expect answers to prayer by the very nature of God.

Oh, He is a good God. We ought to say over and over again how good God is. God is righteous. You remember when Abraham talked with God about Sodom, God said, "I am going to have to destroy Sodom." But Abraham said, "Now Lord, wait. Lot lives down there and Lord, it wouldn't do to destroy the righteous with the wicked. You wouldn't do that, would you?" He argued with God and he put up to God God's own nature. He said, "Lord, you will have to do right; shall not the God of all the earth do right? You can't destroy the righteous as if it didn't matter whether a man was saved." Abraham argued

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Answer to Puzzle No. 26

THE SOUL THAT
RO SINNETH H
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with God about His righteousness. He was anxious for God's righteousness to be vindicated, and that pleased God. It did not displease Him. He argued on the basis of the nature of God.

Then we are told in Hebrews 4 that we are to come boldly to the throne of grace because that it is a throne of grace, and we are to come to find help and find mercy. So then if it is God's grace, why, we are to come because God is gracious and merciful.

I have read through the Psalms recently again and my heart rejoices in one thing. Oh, how many times God says that "the Lord is merciful, yea, our Lord is righteous." And in Psalm 136, every verse ends, "For his mercy endureth for ever."

I said to an old preacher one time, "Why does God have it said so often in Psalm 136 that 'his mercy endureth for ever'?" He replied, "Because 'his mercy endureth for ever.'" Because of God's mercy so clearly revealed, then we ought to expect God to answer prayer.

Look up into the face of God and thank Him that He is the kind of a God who answers prayer. In fact, that is one of the names He gives to Himself in Psalm 65:2. The psalmist is moved and inspired by the Holy Spirit to write, "O thou that hearest prayer." He is the prayer-hearing God. That is one of His own divinely inspired names.

Then He is powerful. We know that God is able. Oh, but you say, "The circumstances. . . ." Never mind circumstances. God is the God of circumstances. Somebody once said, "I don't know what the future holds, but I know who holds the future." And God is able to handle men or to handle weather or to handle all the nations of the world. There is not anything God can't handle—from Satan on up or down; and so the power of God ought to encourage us to pray.

III. Since God Gave His Son, Will He Not Freely Give Us All Things?

Here is another reason I am encouraged to expect God to answer prayer—because God gave His own Son. That is a Bible reason. In Romans 8:32 the Bible says, "He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?" So why shouldn't we expect God to hear us, and why shouldn't we expect God to answer? If God would give His Son, He would give a house or a meal or a friend or a revival or a soul or give us health when we need it. Here the Bible is saying there is nothing too precious, even to the very son of God—there is nothing too precious for God to give to those whom He loves. There is nothing too small, nothing too great.

"Oh, but we do not deserve it," you say. Yes, but the mercy of God has proven enough for all that. "But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound" (Rom. 5:20). You are not worthy to get saved; neither do you have to be worthy to get your prayers answered if you come to pray in Jesus' name or come to pray in faith or come to pray out of a needy heart and meet any one of many of the sweet and varying promises. If you come to meet any condition—in fact, if you just pray and pray and pray—then God has grace to answer when poor sinners such as you and I are, do not deserve it. An answer to prayer comes not because we deserve it, but God gave His Son and "where sin abounded, grace did much more abound."

"He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?"

IV. God's Answers to the Prayers of Others Should Encourage Us to Pray

Another reason which should encourage us to pray is because of His answers to prayers of others. How many times in the Bible we hear of answers to prayer.

I called your attention before to the Scripture in Romans 10:17, "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." I am glad that we can know that the Word of God builds our faith, and the Word of God builds our

(Continued on page 8)

"Great Chapters of the Bible"

Jonah 3 and 4

A Reluctant Prophet Regrets a Great Revival

Clues Across

- 3, 4 "_____ of Nineveh believed God, and proclaimed a fast"
- "When the wicked, even mine enemies and my _____ (s), came upon me" Ps. 27
- "Thou shalt not muzzle the mouth of the _____ that treadeth out the corn" I Cor. 9
- "the word _____ the Lord came unto Jonah"
- "should not I spare _____, that great city?"
- initials of two nations which besieged Jerusalem (II Chron. 24:23; II Kings 24:2)
- a son of Bela (I Chron. 7:7)
- "I am the Lord your God, and none _____" Joel 2
- "the people of Nineveh _____ God, and proclaimed a fast"
- to agree or assent
- "when the sun did arise, that _____ prepared a vehement east wind"
- "The fruit of the righteous is a _____ of life" Prov. 11
- king who fought children of Israel at Edrei (Num. 21:33)
- "that great city, wherein _____ more than sixscore thousand persons that cannot discern?"
- "how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a _____ gathereth her chickens" Matt. 23
- Hebrew word for God
- "Deliver my soul from the sword; my _____ from the power of the dog" Ps. 22
- "Because strait is the gate, and _____ is the way" Matt. 7
- "_____ ye one another with an holy kiss" I Cor. 16
- initials of two disobedient prophets (Jer. 37:13; Num. 31:16)
- "Now _____ chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous" Heb. 12
- initials of three sons who were disappointments (I Sam. 4:21; Gen. 28:8; II Sam. 15:13)
- initials of the first man; the first baby (Gen. 4:1)
- "Mine eyes are ever toward the Lord; for he shall pluck my feet out of the _____" Ps. 25
- "_____ (s), thee according to thine own heart, and fulfil all thy counsel" Ps. 20
- the father of Shuppim and Huppim (I Chron. 7:12)
- "So Jonah was exceeding _____ of the gourd"
- "let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and cry _____ unto God"

Clues Down

- "Peter followed him afar _____" Matt. 26
- number of lepers Jesus cleansed (Luke 17)
- "how long will it be _____ they believe me?" Num. 14
- "What things were gain to me, those I counted _____ for Christ" Phil. 3
- "Nineveh was an _____ great city of three days' journey"
- "use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love _____ one another" Gal. 5
- "Jonah went out of the city, and sat _____ the east side"
- relationship of Rebekah to Abraham before she married Isaac
- competed with
- "the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that _____ fainted"
- "it is better for _____ to die than to live"
- "The _____ (s) of the land are not equal: so is a parable in the mouth of fools" Prov. 26
- "Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall _____ be overthrown"
- "The work is great and _____ (r) and we are separated upon the wall" Neh. 4
- "He casteth forth his _____ like morsels: who can stand before his cold?" Ps. 147
- "The discretion of a man _____ his anger" Prov. 19
- "God prepared a worm when the _____ rose the next day"
- "he caused it _____ be proclaimed and published through Nineveh by the decree of the king"
- an advertisement
- "and cast him forth into the sea: and the sea ceased from her _____" Jonah 1
- to go in haste
- to involve as a necessary result
- "Forty years _____ was I grieved with this generation" Ps. 95
- "he that is _____ among you all, the same shall be great" Luke 9
- man who offered more excellent sacrifice than Cain (Heb. 11)
- "But God prepared a _____ when the morning rose the next day"
- "let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and _____"
- initials for place to which Jonah's ship was going (1:3) and Jonah's father (1:1)
- small city which defeated Israelites (Josh. 7:5)

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for correct, prompt answers to
Puzzle Number 29

HEAVEN

The Better Country

By Theodore H. Epp



A number of vital questions relative to Heaven are answered from the Word of God by Brother Epp in this timely booklet. For example, he gives seven important factors which point to a strong positive answer to the question, "Will We Know Each Other in Heaven?" Other questions answered are: "Will Knowledge of Hell Mar Heaven's Bliss?"; "Do Those in Heaven See and Know What We Are Doing Down Here?"; "Will Babies Who Die Go to Heaven?"; "Will Babies Remain Babies in Heaven?"; "Should We Pray for the Dead?"; "Where Is Heaven?"; and, "Does the Soul of a Saved Person Go Directly to Heaven?" The booklet closes with an explanation about the way to Heaven.

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THE RULES

1. Fill in the empty blanks according to the clues given. Answers must be complete and correct.

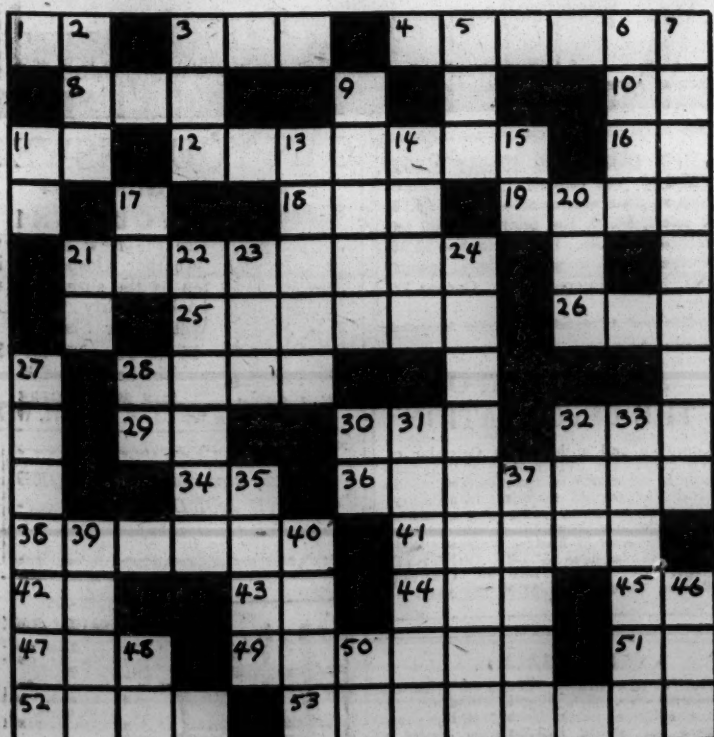
2. PRINT (not write) your name and address in the blank below the puzzle. (Please include country in foreign addresses.) This coupon will serve as your address label for the envelope containing your prize. Mail to: PUZZLE EDITOR, THE SWORD OF THE LORD, Wheaton, Illinois. If you do not wish to cut up your copy of the paper, you may print (not more than three inches wide) on a separate sheet of paper your name and address, and the answers according to the clue numbers given. If you print your answers on a separate sheet of paper, please put them in the same form as the puzzle rather than in columns. This makes it much easier to check and also reduces the possibility of mistakes. Entries will not be returned.

3. In order for you to receive this week's prize, HEAVEN—That Better Country, your entry must be postmarked by midnight, July 27, 1959. If your paper arrives after the deadline date, please place the date of arrival on your entry. The answer to Puzzle Number 29 will appear in the August 7 issue of THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

4. Each person having a correct entry will receive a coupon along with the weekly prize. Save these coupons! They are important! At the end of the year those who have forty-eight coupons will receive a large type, clothbound Scofield Reference Bible. Those who have forty coupons will receive a copy of the book, Man Sent From God, which is a thrilling biography of Dr. John R. Rice. Please remember that the coupons which you have are the only record of your correct entries. It will be your responsibility to keep the coupons. In addition, note that coupons may not be exchanged with one another. The winning of a Bible is on an individual and not a group

Deadline: July 27, 1959

Puzzle No. 29



Mail to: Puzzle Editor, Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois

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(Cut along dotted lines)

Encouragements to Pray

(Continued from page 7)

faith first by learning actual promises that God will do these things and then more than that as we read it. You know it is a promise in itself when I read how God delivered Daniel from the lions' den or how God delivered Hezekiah when Sennacherib and the great Assyrian army surrounded Jerusalem. There seemed no hope. When that wicked letter of the heathen man came bragging that no other gods could take them out of the hands of the Assyrian army, Hezekiah spread that blasphemous letter before the Lord and that night the angel of the Lord came and one hundred and eighty-five thousand soldiers were found dead in their tents. That wicked man returned and was slain in the house of his own god by his two sons. That encourages me to have faith when I hear this or when I hear how God heard Paul and Silas and delivered them from jail and saved the jailer.

When I read in the Bible so many other times how a loving God heard prayer and answered, I am encouraged to pray. So it is a good thing to go through the Bible and mark certain answers to prayer.

Many a time I have preached on it and I have many a time read how God heard the beseechings of Jacob. He held on to the angel and would not let go and said, "I will not let thee go, except thou bless me." (Gen. 32:26). How many times I have rejoiced in the prayer of the Syrophenician woman who kept pleading till she got her girl healed, and that man who came and said, "I believe; help thou mine unbelief" (Mark 9:24), about his devil-possessed son.

Then the woman who touched the hem of the garment of Jesus and many others—like those four men who carried in their hands the man afflicted with palsy and let down his cot through the roof they broke up. I say Bible answers to prayer encourage us to pray.

Then if you want to learn to trust God you must dwell on the Bible and make it real and count yourself the same kind of a poor sinner as the sinners in the Bible whose prayers God answered.

That is legitimate. The Bible calls our attention to Elisha and says he "was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed" and God heard (James 5:17). The Scripture says, "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much" (James 5:16). We are encouraged to pray as these did. And we are encouraged to have an answer to our prayers.

Another thing we ought to be encouraged to pray by is the answers to the prayers of other great men of God, not only those in the Bible. That is one reason a Christian ought to read some good biographies.

I will tell you of two biographies which have been among the greatest blessings in all of my life. One of them is the life of George Muller, the man of prayer of Bristol, England, *George Muller* by A. T. Pierson. That book taught me many of those first lessons that later blossomed into a life of prayer and blossomed into, thank God, a manifestation

through these many years, thirty-seven years of ministry (but much more than that even, because before I started preaching I knew God in wonderful answer to prayer). It blossomed into my book *Prayer—Asking and Receiving* which has gone around the world and been translated in French and in Danish and in Spanish and 175,000 copies in this country. The life of George Muller, the man who prayed down 7½ million dollars and cared for orphan children and sent missionaries and spread literature, was an encouragement to me to pray.

The other was the story of Charles Finney, *The Memoirs of Charles Finney*, that man who was converted as a young lawyer and went out to be an evangelist. How God heard him and used him! Then many another story of answered prayer would encourage us. Maybe it would be *Praying Hyde* or maybe it would be *Hudson Taylor's Spiritual Secret* or maybe it would be the life of D. L. Moody or many of the true stories which R. A. Torrey tells about his answers to prayer in the little book *How to Pray* and in his other books.

Yes, the way God has answered prayers of others ought to encourage us. I remember the story of one woman who when she prayed said, "Lord, I would be willing to be one that You forsake and one that You failed if You failed a lot of other people, but I am determined that I am not going to be the first one." So I would say, thank God, if God heard others, He will hear me. If God heard others who were poor or needy or maybe ignorant and maybe unworthy, then God will hear me. Oh, it is good to know!

That is one reason we ought to tell of answers to prayer. That is one reason why we ought to from time to time give our testimony as David did. He said, "This poor man cried and the Lord heard him and delivered him from all his fears," and we do God an honor and we please Him when we tell of what wonderful things God has done for us in answer to prayer.

I think perhaps I ought to write more on answers to prayer and on marvelous conversions that God has mercifully given.

V. God's Answers to Our Own Prayers in the Past Should Encourage Us to Pray

Another thing, we ought to be encouraged to trust God, we ought to be encouraged to expect an answer to prayer because He has answered our own prayers before. Now you stop and think. You may not be a very good Christian, but haven't you had some answers to prayer? I have and I thank God. When I was only a boy my father was given up to die. Two doctors said, "He won't live till morning." That night I went out to the horses' stall and prayed, and I heard my sister praying under the buggy shed. I heard my stepmother praying in the front room beside the bed. The next morning my father was in some wonderful way healed and restored and back to consciousness and it seemed the sickness was all gone. After a short

convalescence to regain his strength, he was going about his regular duties again. I know God heard my prayer. So it was when I started off to college with \$9.35. (My heart was so blessed as I thought of the matter again this week). And God provided the way.

When you go back and think how God has heard prayer, how God has answered prayer for yourself, it is an encouragement. You know that is the way David did. David said, "What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me? I will take the cup of salvation, and call upon the name of the Lord" (Ps. 116:12, 13). Well, that is good.

And as one man who was a wicked sinner said when he got saved and the Lord was so good to him, "Lord, you ain't never gonna hear the last of this." Well, let's go and tell it and rejoice in the way God has answered our own prayers.

I was blessed this week because I have been looking over the proof sheets of a book, the biography of this poor man written by Robert L. Sumner. The title of the biography about my life is *Man Sent From God*. I read it and I wept part of the time—not because there is anything that I have done I can rejoice about and not weeping for sorrow—but I was weeping as I remembered how many times God did what no one else could do, when my life seemed up against a stone wall, when it seemed that I must sell out and give up the fight, and God heard when I trusted Him. And my heart rejoiced because I was remembering again how God had answered prayer before. I believe the remembering will help me to trust Him. I believe the remembering encouraged me this week to sign contracts for hundreds of dollars every week, \$25,000 or \$30,000 in a year for the additional time for the radio beyond the \$50,000 already obligated for, because I know God answers prayer.

Some time ago after I went to bed, on my bedside table I picked up a book I was reading and my wife said, "What are you reading?" I chuckled and then she looked over and saw me wiping away tears. She said, "What are you reading?" And she rose up in bed to see what I held out beside the bed to read. And she laughed and laughed because I was reading my own book, *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*. It was not that I learned something new when I read it, though the truths of God are always new. The Word of God is never old to the open heart, but I was so blessed to remember again how God had answered so many prayers.

Do you want to be encouraged? Then go back and count your blessings. Go back and think what God has done for you. "Count your many blessings, name them one by one, and it will surprise you," and it will also encourage you, "what the Lord has done." So the answers to prayer in the past ought to make you ask Him again.

VI. It Would Bring Honor and Glory to God to Answer Our Prayers

We are talking about how we should be encouraged to pray. Well, then we ought to think of God's own glory. That is a good reason for God to answer our prayers. God wants some advertising. The one thing we can do for God that He wants and is pleased more by is to offer the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. He said, "Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing. . . . Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise" (Ps. 100:1, 2, 4). God wants the thanksgiving of grateful hearts. And so for His own glory then God could answer prayer.

I can say, "Lord, I am going to praise You. If You will do this for me, I will tell it to the glory of God."

I remember when I went one

THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

Editor at Lake Louise

They are here—crowds coming all the way from the Rio Grande Valley in Texas, and the Gulf Coast states, from Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Maryland and in between. And they are even here from Ontario, Canada to attend this tremendous Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning. The crowd got here early Monday. The management prepared breakfast for 30—there were 140. Before the day was over, the hotel accommodations were jammed.

Dr. Tom Malone has spoken with blessed anointing. Rev. Jack Hyles has arrived and has spoken once with great blessing. We feel God will give us the best conference we have ever had in twelve years. Yesterday (Tuesday, June 30) twenty were won to Christ in soul winning, and others today. We hope to reach over one hundred. Two afternoons will be spent in house-to-house visitation covering the town.

day to put my hand upon the forehead of a woman who was sick, desperately sick with T.B. The doctor had said she couldn't live. And after two years in a sanatorium she came home; the doctor sent her home to die. I said, "If God would heal you, would you give Him the glory and would you tell it everywhere?" She said, "Yes, I would." And I prayed, not with a great deal of faith, I am sure, but God wonderfully heard her prayer and mine. She was raised up and in two weeks she was doing all of her own house work. Twenty-two years later she was still well and strong and with no recurrence of the T.B. But every time I saw her she would stop to tell me what God had done for her. That is what God wants. For His own praise it would honor God then to answer prayer so we can praise Him.

Then besides that, this world has so many doubts about God. It ought not to have. It need not have, but the world isn't acquainted with God. If you want to prove there is a living God, you will get your prayers answered.

When Elijah on Mount Carmel prayed down the fire of God and there came a great fire and

burned up the sacrifice, the people fell on their faces and said, "The Lord, he is the God" (1 Kings 18:39). You see, God is vindicated when God can prove Himself in answer to prayer. Oh, then, how we ought to pray.

VII. The Moving of the Holy Spirit in Our Hearts Is an Encouragement to Pray

And last of all, we ought to be encouraged to pray because of the moving of God's Spirit in our hearts. In Psalm 119:49 the psalmist prayed unto the Lord, "Remember the word unto thy servant, upon which thou hast caused me to hope." Did God put it in your heart to trust Him? Did God call some Scripture to mind and make it more personally His Word to you? Then take courage and be bold. God moved your heart and God will answer the prayer that He put in your heart.

Oh, how we ought to be encouraged to pray!

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